

## Message Text

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 01 MOSCOW 05171 160915Z

ACTION SS-25

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 SSO-00 /026 W

-----161219Z 108396/15

R 160900Z APR 77

FM AMEMBASSY MOSCOW

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 6329

INFO AMCONSUL LENINGRAD

CONFIDENTIAL MOSCOW 5171

EXDIS

EO 11652: GDS

TAGS: PINT, PFOR, OGEN, UR, US

SUBJECT: SOVIETS REJECT CONGRESSIONAL LETTERS ADDRESSED TO  
BREZHNEV ON JEWISH REFUSENIKS

1. ON INSTRUCTIONS FROM SECRETARY VANCE'S PARTY, EMBASSY  
SENT TWO LETTERS FROM CONGRESSMAN EILBERG TO BREZHNEV UNDER  
COVER OF A LETTER DATED APRIL 5 FROM POLCOUNS TO  
FEDOSEYEV OF U.S. DIVISION MFA. EILBERG'S LETTERS  
REQUESTED BREZHNEV'S INTERCESSION IN THE CASES OF TWO  
REFUSENIKS: NAUM SALANSKIY AND YOSIF SHRAYBER.

2. MFA RETURNED THE LETTERS APRIL 14, UNDER COVER OF  
A LETTER FROM FEDOSEYEV TO POLCOUNS. FEDOSEYEV'S REPLY  
FOLLOWS:

BEGIN QUOTE: DEAR MR. BROWN: I RETURN WITH THIS, THE  
LETTERS OF CONGRESSMAN J. EILBERG RECEIVED FROM YOU.  
IN THE LETTERS UNDER REFERENCE, THERE IS NOT  
ONLY GIVEN A DISTORTED INTERPRETATION OF CERTAIN PROVISIONS  
OF THE FINAL ACT OF THE CSCE, BUT ALSO THERE ARE CONTAINED  
CRUDE FABRICATIONS AND IMPUDENT SLANDER ADDRESSED TO  
THE SOVIET UNION. ONE CAN ONLY EXPRESS BEWILDERMENT  
THAT THE EMBASSY OF THE USA SHOULD ALLOW ITSELF TO  
TRANSMIT SUCH LAMPOONS.

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THE ATTENTION OF THE AMERICAN SIDE HAS ALREADY BEEN  
DRAWN TO THE FACT THAT THE QUESTIONS OF THE DEPARTURE IF

SOVIET CITIZENS TO ANY COUNTRY OTHER THAN THE USA,  
IN GENERAL CANNOT BE THE SUBJECT OF SOVIET-AMERICAN  
CONTACTS. ENCLOSURE, AS STATED. FEDOSEYEV. END  
QUOTE.

3. EMBASSY ROUTINELY TRANSMITS CONGRESSIONAL CORRESPONDENCE FOR SENIOR SOVIET OFFICIALS THROUGH THE MFA. WHILE IT IS QUESTIONABLE WHETHER THE LETTERS ARE EVER READ BY THEIR ADDRESSEES, THIS IS THE FIRST TIME IN RECENT MEMORY THAT THE MFA HAS SEEN FIT FORMALLY TO RETURN SUCH LETTERS AND TO COMPLAIN ABOUT THEM AND ABOUT THE EMBASSY'S ROLE IN TRANSMITTING THEM. CONGRESSMAN EILBERG HAS LONG IRRITATED THE SOVIETS, AND THEY MAY HAVE TAKEN PARTICULAR EXCEPTION TO THE TERMS OF THE LETTER CONCERNING SALANSKIY. (LETTERS BEING POUCHED TO EUR/SOV).

4. IT HAS LONG BEEN THE SOVIET POSITION THAT THE USG HAS NO STANDING AS FAR AS SOVIETS WISHING TO EMIGRATE ELSEWHERE THAN THE USA ARE CONCERNED. WHILE FEDOSEYEV'S LETTER MAY BE INTENDED MERELY AS A REMINDER OF THAT POSITION, WE FEEL THAT THE STRENGTH OF HIS LANGUAGE AND THE SPECIFIC COMPLAINT ABOUT THE EMBASSY'S INVOLVEMENT ARE INDICATIVE OF INCREASED SOVIET IRRITATION OVER OUR ALLEGED "INTERFERENCE" IN JEWISH EMIGRATION.

5. IT IS NOTEWORTHY THAT SALANSKIY SHOULD HAVE JUST RECEIVED EXIT PERMISSION (MOSCOW 5027).

TOON

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## Message Attributes

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**Subject:** SOVIETS REJECT CONGRESSIONAL LETTERS ADDRESSED TO BREZHNEV ON JEWISH REFUSENIKS  
**TAGS:** PINT, PFOR, OGEN, UR, US, (EILBERG, J), (SALANSKIY, NAUM), (SHRAYBER, YOSIF)  
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**Review Markings:**  
Margaret P. Grafeld  
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